



**nebraska Farm Bureau Federation®**

5225 S. 16th St., P.O. Box 80299, Lincoln, NE 68501 Phone: (402) 421-4400 FAX: (402) 421-4427

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Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

IB Docket No. 11-109

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation (NEFB) and our over 54,000 members, we would like to offer the following comments on the report offered by the technical working group co-chaired by LightSquared and the United States Global Positioning System (GPS) Industry Council (USGIC) on the GPS interference issues surrounding LightSquared's broadband network build-out.

NEFB believes that high-speed broadband services have great potential to bring opportunity to rural Americans, but those opportunities should not jeopardize the global positioning system (GPS). Precision agriculture allows farmers and ranchers to run efficient, economical and environmentally conscious operations. Farmers use GPS for accurate mapping of field boundaries, roads and irrigation systems; for precision planting; and for targeting the application of fertilizer and chemicals that combat weeds and crop diseases. GPS also allows farmers to work despite low-visibility field conditions such as rain, dust, fog and darkness.

It is the accuracy of GPS that makes it useful to farm and ranch operations. Disruption to GPS has the potential to reduce farm profitability by raising production costs and affecting farm and ranch operations.

NEFB urges the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to ensure there is no interference with GPS receivers prior to granting LightSquared permission to operate its high-powered cellular base stations. It is also important that the cost of resolving this issue not be passed along to farmers and ranchers through higher GPS or equipment costs.

In closing, we would like to thank the FCC for the work they are doing to provide rural America with high-speed broadband services. While the deployment of broadband services is important to economic development, better education and improved health services in rural America, the use of precision agriculture is also vital to America's farmers and ranchers as they continue to feed, fuel and clothe the world.

Sincerely,

Keith R. Olsen  
President